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Army ROTC Stonehenge Battalion 2016 Newsletter.

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From the Desk of LTC Register:

It is a great time to be involved with the Missouri S&T Army ROTC program. I am honored to be the Professor of Military Science at this esteemed university. The S&T Army ROTC program has been developing and producing Army leaders since 1919 when it was then known as the Missouri School of Mines. While the program has a long lineage associated with engineering, it has commissioned over 2,940 officers that have gone on to serve within both the military and civilian sectors. In 2016, the program commissioned 13 Cadets and we recently commissioned 6 Cadets who will be a part of Year Group 2017. Our program continues to grow in size and diversity and includes students from S&T, Columbia College, and Drury University. I am very proud to report that our program is as strong as ever and I will continue to uphold the high standards associated with this awesome institution.

Over the past several years, our program has shifted its focus somewhat to obtain more of a balance between academic rigor and tactics. Cadets are now focused a little more on critical and creative thinking to assist them with dynamic problem-solving.

Football Game

Fall 2016
Commissioning

Next Semester:

Summer Camp

FTX/Super Lab

German Badge

Analytic skills are now incorporated into tactical problems during field training exercises and leadership labs. The overall intent is to allow Cadets to develop their own solutions to complex problems in ambiguous situations. Our Cadre continues to refine the curriculum and training methodologies. Our goal is to ensure that we are training the leaders of tomorrow to thrive and succeed in an unknowable future.

Speaking of our Cadre, a special thank you to MSG Brian Hearn, Senior Military Instructor for his dedication to duty and tireless efforts over the last three years. MSG Hearn will be leaving the program to become a 1SG in April, 2016. MSG Hearn has been the backbone of the ROTC program serving at the NCOIC of all field training exercises, leadership labs, extra-circular activities, and the MS II instructor. Most importantly, he along with all of our Cadre and Staff, promote an environment of learning and professional development based on over 20 years of experience.

The most important reason for our programs existence is to train Cadets. Our Cadets are truly remarkable and I am constantly amazed by their academic performance, ROTC commitment, and involvement within the community. Many of our Cadets have had the opportunity to participate in additional training including Air Assault School, Cultural Understanding and Language Program (CULP), and summer internships. Also, our Cadets have been recognized with awards from the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), the National Defense Transportation Association (NDTA), and the Association of the United States Army.

I look forward to the coming days and months as we continue to grow the ROTC program and meet our goal of commissioning leaders of character. I would like to thank the university administration for their continued support to the program and the students. I'd also like to request any alumni wishing to volunteer their time and energy to support the Army ROTC program to please contact me. I am honored and excited to be able to serve this university and our Cadets.

Stonehenge!

LTC Otis E. Register
Professor of Military Science.



Army ROTC Stonehenge Cadre

In the first row moving left to right is Mrs. Vickie Baker and Ms. Debbie Wink. In the second row moving left to right is MSG Richard Dalton, LTC Chad Pense, MSG Brian Hearn, and LTC Otis Register.



9/11 Ceremony

It was an honor to participate in the annual remembrance of what happened on September 11th, 2001. This marked the 15th anniversary since those dreadful attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Air Force ROTC led the ceremony with Army ROTC, Campus Police, and local Firefighters joining in the remembrance of 9/11. The Stonehenge Battalion Army ROTC cannon was fired four times to symbolize the four passenger airliners that were hijacked. After each time the cannon was fired a moment of silence was held for the many people that lost their lives that day. There was also a wreath laying and flag retirement ceremony performed by the American

Legion. This year marks a new age as high school freshman will learn of this day as a historical event rather than a memory from their life.

Fall APFT

Stonehenge conducted two APFT's this fall, with one being a record APFT. This is the time and place where all cadets are tested physically with having to complete 2 minutes of push-ups and sit-ups, and a 2-mile run.



The goal of the Battalion is to get everyone to pass this test by the end of the semester. The Battalion meets every week on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday to conduct PT, however cadets are encouraged to do PT on their own as well to help them with their score for this event. This is also a requirement to stay in the Army ROTC program and to commission as a 2LT.



Fall Land Navigation FTX

This Fall our program conducted a Land Navigation Field Training Exercise. The following is a sample from Cadet Isaac Baer's point of view.

"My name is Isaac Baer and I am a Freshman at Missouri University of Science and Technology as well as a MSI in the Army ROTC program. As a new cadet I went into this past field training exercise at Fort Leonard Wood on October 8, not having any experience in land navigation. I was very nervous about getting lost and not being able to figure out how to navigate around without technology, but I have found that there is no better way to learn than just trying it out. I learned a ton from the land navigation exercises. I went from only finding 4 out of the 8 points the first time, to

finding 7 out of 8 the second time, and finding all of my points in the night land navigation course. As the day progressed I learned more and more about how to go about plotting the coordinates, navigating from point to point, and problem solving along the way. After not doing the best on the first land navigation exercise I even went through a brief instruction course that reiterated the important parts to land navigation. This helped me remember some of the things that I failed to do on the first exercise like managing my time and the different tricks to keep track of your pacing. Following this rebriefing I went out on my second land navigation exercise and I did a lot better. The final land navigation exercise was at night so we had to find different ways to find our check points other than using landmarks. This was probably the most challenging of the exercises but I think I got the most out of that one. Overall I gained a lot of knowledge in land navigation and ton of confidence in myself."



Task Force Ranger Challenge-Fall 2016

On a Saturday morning in late October while normal college students were preparing for Halloween festivities, two teams; one male and one female, from the Missouri University of Science and Technology's Army ROTC Stonehenge BN, set out to complete the Physical Endurance Course which included obstacles from rope swings and grenade throws to a 20ft rope climb. This early morning obstacle course would set the tone of the day... a smoke session. The male team was second to push off for the course, which was 30 seconds behind the first place team. Both teams faced a rigorous day-long ruck with lanes in the fields of calling in fire support, land navigation, weapons disassembly/assembly with function checks, radio works, medical, and American history to name a few.

"During the race, many teams failed to meet standards and failed to properly reach checkpoints, so initially the race was a huge mess for cadre and cadets alike, no one knew what place they were in... In the end, the ruck march was like running a marathon while taking a final exam," said Cadet Alex Stewart (Captain of the female team). But, even with the 22 or more miles of rucking complete, these teams were still pushed harder and farther at the end of the race with a Physical Fitness Test which included 200 repetitions of push-ups, ammo can lifts, rowers, kettle bell squats, and concluded with a 2-mile run which could be described as a

sprint.

In the end, the male team was able to catch back up after a grueling mistake and finish in 5th place out of the 17 other male/coed teams. The females fared much better in their league by exceeding all other female teams by roughly an hour in the land navigation lane and finishing in first. The Stonehenge Female Ranger Challenge Team showed what hard work and hours of mental and physical training could accomplish.

The Female Ranger Challenge Team will head to Fort McCoy to compete against the other schools in the Blackhawk Brigade.

Good Luck Ladies!

-c/LTC Justin A. Carollo



Batcave

The newest addition to the Stonehenge Battalion is a weight room that has been nicknamed "The Bat Cave" for its secrecy and thought to be just a bedtime story for cadets to fall asleep dreaming that one day they would have a gym dedicated for their physical improvement. But now The Bat Cave will soon be opening up to all cadets in Army ROTC.

We are currently working to increase the amount of workout equipment for the cadets, as well as install a card security reader so that cadets have



more access to go anytime they want. Everyone is very excited about being able to enjoy The Bat Cave and have a place to develop and grow future leaders.



Halloween Fun Run 2016

On Monday, October 31st Army ROTC enjoyed dressing up in costumes and running 8 miles early that morning. The run combined with the hilarious costumes helped cadets forget about the long week ahead and helped build esprit de corps within the Battalion.



On the left are two cadets dressed up as Beetlejuice and Katy Perry's Left Shark.

Freshman/Green to Gold

Every year the program is excited to invite the new oncoming freshman as well as the new Green to Gold members that have superior amount of experience in the Army. Each group are in very different times of their life, so they were asked three questions and asked to give their responses.

1. What were your expectations coming into the program and after being in the program what are your expectations now?
2. Compared to everyday Army-life/high school, are you more or less busy now? If less busy, what do you spend that extra time doing?

3. What do you plan to do with your Army career?



Green to Gold

1. I was a little unsure on what to expect from the program. I knew that it would be a step back from being in an Army unit so I kept an open mind. I expected the cadets to know most of the basics especially military lingo, rank structure, and proper customs and courtesies. I was happy to see that cadets did know most of these things and if not they would ask. After learning the goals of the program, I now expect a lot of self-development from the cadets. There simply isn't enough time being in the program to go over everything there is to know about the Army. It takes discipline and initiative to get the knowledge needed to succeed in the U.S. Army. Only through hard work and dedication in the program, will you build a foundation to become a professional military officer.

2. I'm less busy but I'm more school and family focused. I spend lots of time with my wife and son. If not with them, I'm attending class and studying just like any other college student. Army life can require twelve plus hour days so I feel like I have more time now to concentrate on school and family.

3. I plan on staying in until retirement, which for me will be another twelve years. I have seen the benefits of being a part of such a great organization and I have a lot of pride in serving my country. The Army can provide the experience and leadership needed to be successful in future endeavors. I'm excited to see a different side of the military in the role of an officer.



Freshman

1. I had expected ROTC to teach the basics of the Army, such as leadership and the chain of command. I assumed it would be in a classroom with the instructor going over slides of information on the Army and how the branches and jobs worked inside the Army. I expected lab work to be divided between the classes with the freshman taking a broad view on movement with the drill sergeants.

After spending some time in the program my expectations for the program are hands on in labs with, not the instructors, but the upperclassmen teaching and instructing the underclassman on detailed military movements and assaults. The classroom setting is not just about the Army and how to become an officer, but how to become a leader in the military and in society.

2. I would not say I am more or less busy, but it is just different. What may make a person feel like they are more busy is the fact that they are on their own schedule. In high school, there is a straight forward schedule of seven periods, after school activities and then homework. However, in college you make your own schedule. Although it is nice to have that freedom, I try to stay active with intramural sports, ROTC and other school functions, so scheduling all these so they don't overlap can be difficult.

3. The path that I want to go is to join the Engineering branch. In this area I plan to work with the Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act. This act helps preserve clean water worldwide and has helped bring clean water to thousands of people in need.



CULP Reflection

This wasn't my first time traveling. I've toured the states, crossed into Canada, and vacationed in Mexico twice. I've gone to Guatemala with my church and Japan with my family. However, none of these trips compared to my time in Honduras with Army ROTC. Intentionally set this trip apart from my past experiences. I wasn't passively taking in the sights around me like I had so many times before. Instead, the cadre, my peers, and I made sure everyday was an opportunity to learn about the country around us. Whether we were touring a mall or visiting an orphanage, we were asking questions and taking notes - trying to understand what makes Honduras the beautiful but dangerous place that it is.

The culture shock hit me as soon as I arrived in Tegucigalpa. Outside the airport, security guards packing semi-automatics paced back and forth nonchalantly. Vans and dirt bikes sped haphazardly through the streets, and small concrete boxes cascaded down the mountains on all sides. It was like the city overflowed and its infrastructure spilled out its borders. While walking down its crowded streets on my first day, I met a homeless child asking for a dollar. Outside the city mall I met another kid, simply asking for a drink of water. The heartbreaking poverty in Honduras became all the more bewildering when I looked around the mall. Well-dressed couples hung around tech and fashion stores where designer shirts cost \$80 and Nike shoes were \$150. I noted this stark disparity of wealth in my journal below an underlined "Social," one of several labels that I used to segment my notes.

The labels I used are called PMESII-PT, the eight major operation variables in any environment. PMESII-PT stands for Political, Military, Economic, Social, Infrastructure, Information, Physical Environment, and Time. My observation at the mall fell under the Social category because it represented the class divide in Honduras. When reviewing the social characteristics of Honduras, I could quickly reference that experience as an example of an absent middle class. PMESII-PT was a tremendous tool for trying to make sense of such a complex country. At first it seemed merely to be a deconstructive technique - a way to isolate a chaotic mix of variables. For example, under the "Political" heading I described our tour guide's disgust for the current president's corruption. Later I recorded a Colonel's contrasting approval for the same president's cooperation. While training with the Honduran military I documented the underdeveloped NCO corps. I noted Honduras' strong agricultural focus at a coffee farm, and its lack of other industries at an international port. I noted the nearly unanimous catholic presence at Picacho and the Basilica, the congested powerlines along urban streets, and the crumbling roads in rural areas. I described the mountains balding around me and my precious, structured time melting into ambiguity. As observations filled my notebook, the seemingly disparate variables began to connect. I learned that the Catholic Church pulls political strings and that gangs had infiltrated the police force. In fact, the gangs spanned each variable. For instance, they provided economic security in some communities while forcing others across borders or into the military. There's too much to mention in a

brief recap of my experience.

My takeaway from this trip wasn't an eye-opening moment or a life-changing experience, but a technique called PMESII-PT. More generally, what I really learned wasn't PMESII-PT itself but the intention behind it - to understand one's environment. Wherever I go, I'll take this purposeful attentiveness with me to combat the unknown.

-c/SPC Joseph Sullivan
Honduras Team 1
CULP 2016

Cadet Sullivan also received a certificate and a \$500 check for being chosen for the SAME Scholarship.



Military Appreciation Football Game

Brig. Gen. Jim Bonner, U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School commandant, administers the Oath of Enlistment to eight MS&T ROTC cadets. Taking the oath is part of the requirement for fulfilling their ROTC scholarship contracts.

December Commissioning List

Newly Commissioned 2LT's are labeled from left to right, and top to bottom.

Heather McCoy - Active Duty Field Artillery

Justin Habiger - Active Duty Engineer

Jeff Mundschenk - National Guard Ordnance

Ethan Nichols - Active Duty Engineer

Luke Ragsdell - Active Duty Military Intelligence

Ben Rice - Active Duty Armor





Next Semester

Spring and summer 2017 brings German Badge and Cadet Summer Training (CST) to Stonehenge Battalion. The German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (GAFPB) is a decoration of the Bundeswehr, the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany. In the United States Military the GAFPB is one of the few approved foreign awards, and it is one of the most sought after awards to achieve. Cadet Summer Training is a one month long rite of passage for cadets who intend to commission. It includes training and tests covering land navigation, APFT, and platoon tactics.

Links to the Stonehenge Battalion school website and Facebook page can be accessed below.



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